

W. L. G. Dec. 11. 1805

Boston, Nov. 20th 1862.

Dear Mrs May.

I thank you for your note suggesting that a meeting should be called of our Society to make arrangements for the Festival. I carried your note to Mrs May to advise with her, and she proposes to have it a fortnight from to day (Thursday) at her house. When you come to Boston we will consult with some of the gentlemen as to the best way of proceeding.

Mr Weed is staying with us, and we have friends continually. I am sorry to make you write all the notes to the ladies, but my time is wholly occupied at present. But I hope to have more leisure soon.

With kind love

to your family,

I remain truly

Yours,

Helen C. Garrison.

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Papers of the
Subscription Anniversary
of January, 1863.

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[Notes of Remarks at the Meeting of Antislavery
Ladies, at 27 Hollis St., December, 1862.]

Treasury exhausted - end of January

Nearly 4 mos. remain to complete the
Official Year of S. Standard - & A. S. Society.

Not only the ordinary expenses of those
4 mos. (wh. cannot be put lower than \$2000.)
are needed, but the additional cost of the paper,
at present prices, could not safely be estimated
much less than \$400. -

Some of our friends think the Antislavery work done,
and that nothing remains for us but to disband. -

Were it not for the high character & intelligence of those (very few)
persons who so believe, we should say it was contradicted by
every fact, by every day's experience, ^{we sh^d say that} ~~by~~ the very anxiety
with which all look now to see whether the 1st of January will
really bring, or not, an effective enforcement of the President's
Proclamation of Sept. 22^d '62 contradicted such an idea. -

I will not presume to forestal any opinion or
decision of this Comtee, but being placed by the Abolitionists
of Mass^{tts} in a position ~~wh. requires me~~ to know something of
the Exigencies & Perils of our Cause, I must say that, ~~for~~
~~for~~ myself, it would have all the characteristics of a Soldier's
Desertion of his Post. When the great Decisive Contest of the Thirty Year
War is about to be fought, for us to disband now, to close our
depositories, to stop the Society's Organ the "Standard", I
desire to say, as a Servant of the Society & the Cause, that I
never saw the hour, when it was more imperative on us all,
upon every Abolitionist, upon every friend of the Slave,
upon every friend of his Country, to stand absolutely

firm - unyielding - abandoning no great
instrumentality. We must preserve our
Organization unbroken & perfect, our free
& well-known Standards conspicuous at its high
elevation, until we can not only imagine, or
by straining the sight into the future dimly
catch a glimpse of, a possible freedom - but
until Freedom - Emancipation - the Downfall
of Slavery - are Facts - recognized facts thru
the world - Accomplished Facts, and the
Era of Absolute, Universal, Constitutional Liberty
has begun. The necessity is laid upon us,

woe be to us, if we yield this post, or lay our
arms down, while the enemy is in the field.

I hold, Ladies, that we cannot, must not
do this; and I am sure no one here will cease to
oppose Slavery, so long as Slavery is.

As to the best methods of raising the means
which the Society now most urgently needs, and for
which it has been so largely indebted to your labors in
past, we all look to your counsel & action at this time with
the deepest interest.

Last year, over \$4000. -